

Application No. 10/014,452

### REMARKS

Claims 1 and 25 have been amended by reintroducing the amount of plasticizer in the adhesive. New claim 26 has been added which includes the recitations of former claims 1 and 12. Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §103 contained on page 2 of the Office Action.

Claims 1, 4, 6-11, 18, 21, and 22-25 have been rejected under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al. in view of Arnold, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Applicants point out that the primary and secondary references do not teach or suggest the amount of plasticizer. Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to use the claimed amount of plasticizer absent some teaching or suggestion. Therefore, Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, are not obvious in view of the cited combination.

Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4, 6-11, 18, 21, and 22-25 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al. in view of Arnold, et al.

Claims 12 and 14-16 have been rejected under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al. in view of Arnold, et al., and further in view of Schlueter, Jr., et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

As set forth above, the primary and secondary references do not teach or suggest the amount of plasticizer as claimed. However, in a previous Office Action, the Examiner relied on Schlueter, Jr., et al. as teaching the amount of claimed plasticizer of former claim 5. Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to use the amount of plasticizer taught by Schlueter, Jr., et al, because the plasticizer of Schlueter, Jr., et al. is completely different from the plasticizer as claimed. Schlueter, Jr., et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed plasticizers including alcohols, amines, thiols, organic acids, oligomers, and mixtures thereof. Instead the reference at col. 10, lines 28-29, teaches a plasticizer of dialkyl phthalate. Therefore, Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art faced with teachings of a plasticizer comprising dialkyl phthalate, would not have been motivated to use the same amount of the claimed plasticizer

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in the claimed adhesive. Applicants submit that there would have been no expectation of success that the use of a completely distinguishable plasticizer in a different adhesive would work well as the amount of plasticizer in the claimed adhesive. Therefore, Applicants submit that the present claims are not rendered obvious in view of the cited combination. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 12 and 14-16 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al. in view of Arnold, et al., and further in view of Schlueter, Jr., et al.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al., Arnold, et al., and Schlueter, Jr., et al., in view of Yamasaki, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Yamasaki, et al. does not teach or suggest the use of the claimed amount of plasticizer. Applicants repeat the above arguments as to why one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to use the claimed amount of plasticizer in view of Schlueter, Jr., et al., in combination with the other references. Applicants submit that Yamasaki, et al. does not teach or suggest the deficiencies of Parker, et al. and Arnold, et al. In addition, Applicants repeat the above arguments as to why one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to use the claimed amount of plasticizer in view of the teachings of the combination of Parker, et al., Arnold, et al., and Schlueter, Jr., et al. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present claims are not rendered obvious in view of the 4-reference combination. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 13 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al., Arnold, et al., and Schlueter, Jr., et al., in view of Yamasaki, et al.

Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al., Arnold, et al., and Schlueter, Jr., et al., in view of Pistoia, et al. In response, Applicants traverse the rejection.

Applicants submit that Pistoia, et al. does not teach or suggest the amount of claimed plasticizer. In addition, Applicants submit that the teachings of Pistoia, et al. would not have motivated one of ordinary skill in the art to use the amount of claimed plasticizer in the adhesive as claimed. Applicants repeat the above arguments as to why one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to use the claimed plasticizer in view of the combination of Parker, et al., Arnold, et al., and Schlueter, Jr., et al. Applicants submit that

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Pistoia, et al. does not teach or suggest the deficiencies of the references, and does not include any further teaching or suggestion that would have motivated one of ordinary skill in the art to use the amount of claimed plasticizer. Therefore, Applicants submit that the recitations of claim 17 are not rendered obvious in view of the cited combination.

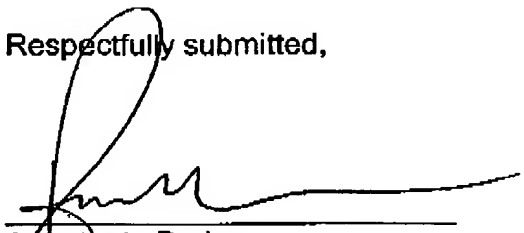
Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17 under 35 USC §103 as obvious over Parker, et al., Arnold, et al., and Schlueter, Jr., et al., in view of Pistoia, et al.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that all claims should now be in condition for allowance. Early indication of allowability is respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney (or agent) hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, s/he is hereby authorized to call Applicant's Attorney, Annette L. Bade, at telephone number (310) 333-3682.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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